

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1 through 39 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 40 through 63 as follows:

40. (New) A portable device comprising:

    unauthorized separation detection means arranged to detect the unauthorized separation of the portable device from a person; and

    control means arranged to effect at least partial disablement of the portable device in response to the unauthorized separation of the portable device and person, wherein the unauthorized separation detection means are means for detecting the release of a releasable connector connecting the portable device to the person.

41. (New) A portable device as claimed in claim 40, wherein the releasable connector comprises a strap.

42. (New) A portable device as claimed in claim 40, wherein the releasable connector is released by severance.

43. (New) A portable device as claimed in claim 40, wherein the unauthorized separation detection means detects the interruption of a closed conductive path via the releasable connector.

44. (New) A portable device as claimed in claim 40, wherein the portable device comprises a cellular radio transceiver.

45. (New) A portable device as claimed in claim 44, wherein the control means is arranged to effect at least partial disablement of the portable device by controlling the cellular radio transceiver to transmit a disable message.

46. (New) A portable device as claimed in claim 40, wherein the portable device is or comprises a cellular mobile telephone for operation in a cellular communications network and the control means is arranged to effect at least partial disablement of the portable device by sending a disabling message to the network for disabling normal operation of the telephone in the network.

47. (New) A cellular telephone network comprising a portable device as claimed in claim 46 wherein the mobile telephone comprises a handset and a replaceable card, which enables the handset to operate as a telephone in the network, and the network is responsive to the disabling message sent by the mobile telephone to disable the card from normal use in the network and/or to disable the handset from normal use in the network.

48. (New) A portable device having a radio transmitter, comprising:

a releasable connector arranged to connect the portable device to a person and arranged to release the connection of the portable device to the person if the device is grabbed while connected to the person; and

control means arranged to effect at least partial disablement of the portable device in response to the release of the releasable connector.

49. (New) A portable device as claimed in claim 48, wherein the releasable connector comprises a strap.

50. (New) A portable device as claimed in claim 48, wherein the releasable connector is released by severance.

51. (New) A portable device as claimed in claim 48, wherein the unauthorized separation detection means detects the interruption of a closed conductive path via the releasable connector.

52. (New) A portable device as claimed in claim 48, wherein the control means is arranged to control the radio transmitter to send a message in response to the release of the releasable connector.

53. (New) A portable device as claimed in claim 48, wherein the device is or comprises a

cellular mobile telephone for operation in a cellular communications network and the control means is arranged to control the radio transmitter to send a disabling message to the network for disabling normal operation of the telephone in the network.

54. (New) A portable device comprising:

unauthorized separation detection means arranged to detect the unauthorized separation of the portable device from a counterpart device worn by a person; and

control means arranged to effect at least partial disablement of the portable device in response to the unauthorized separation of the portable device and counterpart, wherein the portable device and the counterpart device are arranged to form a wireless couple, the diminution of which is detectable by the unauthorized separation detection means.

55. (New) A portable device as claimed in claim 54, wherein the portable device comprises a cellular radio transceiver.

56. (New) A portable device as claimed in claim 55, wherein the control means is arranged to effect at least partial disablement of the portable device by controlling the cellular radio transceiver to transmit a disable message.

57. (New) A portable device as claimed in claim 54, wherein the portable device is a mobile telephone comprising a handset and a replaceable card and the control means is arranged to effect at least partial disablement of the mobile telephone by locking the handset to the replaceable card.

58. (New) A portable device as claimed in claim 54 wherein the portable device is or comprises a cellular mobile telephone for operation in a cellular communications network and the control means is arranged to effect at least partial disablement of the portable device by sending a disabling message to the network for disabling normal operation of the telephone in the network.

59. (New) A portable device wearable by a person comprising:

unauthorized separation detection means arranged to detect the unauthorized separation of the portable device from a counterpart device; and

control means arranged to effect at least partial disablement of the counterpart device in

response to the unauthorized separation of the portable device and counterpart, wherein the portable device and the counterpart device are arranged to form a wireless couple, the diminution of which is detectable by the unauthorized separation detection means.

60. (New) A portable device as claimed in claim 59, wherein the counterpart device comprises a cellular radio transceiver or mobile telephone.

61. (New) A portable device as claimed in claim 60, wherein the control means is arranged to effect at least partial disablement of the portable device by controlling the cellular radio transceiver to transmit a disable message.

62. (New) A portable device as claimed in claim 59, wherein the portable device is a mobile telephone comprising a handset and a replaceable card and the control means is arranged to effect at least partial disablement of the mobile telephone by locking the handset to the replaceable card.

63. (New) A portable device having a radio transmitter, comprising:

    unauthorized removal means arranged to detect the unauthorized removal of the device from a person porting the device; and

    control means arranged to effect at least partial disablement of the device in response to the unauthorized removal of the device.